

CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A modular cargo carrier assembly, comprising:

a cargo container connectable to a vehicle, said cargo container comprising a bottom and a container side wall extending upwardly from a periphery of said bottom, said bottom and container side wall defining an interior compartment; ~~and~~

a platform comprising a floor and a platform side wall extending upwardly from a periphery of said floor, said floor and platform side wall defining a receiver portion adapted to nestingly support the cargo container thereon; and

at least one latch or lock attached to said sidewall of said cargo container to secure the container to the platform side wall.

2. (original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the cargo container bottom periphery defines an exterior dimension that is less than the exterior dimension defined by the cargo container side wall periphery, whereby the container side wall exterior surface and the platform side wall exterior surface are substantially coplanar when the platform is nestingly supporting the cargo container.

3. Cancelled

4. (original) The assembly of claim1, wherein said cargo container includes at least one projection extending outwardly from the container bottom periphery.

5. (original) The assembly of claim 4, wherein said platform includes at least one slot aligned with and adapted to matingly engage the cargo container projection when the platform is nestingly supporting the cargo container.

6. (original) The assembly of claim 5, wherein said slot defines an opening extending substantially through the platform side wall.

7. Cancelled

8. (original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein said platform and cargo container further include at least one aligned drainage aperture for selectively permitting fluid communication between the cargo container interior compartment and an exterior of the container.

9. (original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein said cargo container further includes a cover attached to an upper end of the container side wall.

Claims 10 and 11 Cancelled

12. (original) The assembly of claim 9, wherein said cargo container side wall or bottom includes at least one wheel.

13. (original) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said platform floor or side wall includes at least one wheel receiving slot aligned with said wheel when the platform is nestingly supporting the cargo container.

14. (currently amended) A modular cargo carrier assembly, comprising:

a cargo container comprising a bottom and a container side wall extending upwardly from a periphery of said bottom and at least one projection extending outwardly from said container bottom periphery, said bottom and container side wall defining an interior compartment; and

a platform comprising at least one slot aligned with and adapted to matingly engage said projection, a floor, and a platform side wall extending upwardly from a periphery of said floor, said floor and platform side wall defining a receiver portion adapted to nestingly support the cargo container thereon and wherein said projection of said cargo container matingly engages the slot of said platform when the platform is nestingly supporting the cargo container; and

~~an accessory support assembly for carrying the cargo carrier assembly and securing the cargo carrier assembly to an accessory receiver assembly secured to a vehicle.~~

15. Cancelled

16. (original) The assembly of claim 14, wherein said cargo container side wall includes at least one latch or lock for securing the container to the platform side wall.

Claims 17-18 Cancelled

19. (currently amended) The assembly of claim ~~18~~16, wherein said slot defines an opening extending substantially through the platform side wall.

20. Cancelled

21. (currently amended) The assembly of claim ~~20~~31, wherein the accessory support assembly comprises a mounting post and an accessory mounting bracket having mounting apertures aligned with said platform mounting apertures.

22. (currently amended) The assembly of claim 14, wherein said platform and cargo container further include at least one aligned drainage aperture for ~~selectively permitting fluid communication~~selective drainage between from the cargo container interior compartment ~~and to an~~the exterior of the container.

Claims 23-25 Cancelled

26. (currently amended) The assembly of claim ~~23~~22, wherein said cargo container side wall or bottom includes at least one wheel.

27. (currently amended) The assembly of claim ~~25~~26, wherein said platform floor or side wall includes at least one wheel receiving slot aligned with said wheel when the platform is nestingly supporting the cargo container.

28. (currently amended) A modular cargo carrier assembly, comprising:

a cargo container comprising a bottom and a container side wall extending upwardly from a periphery of said bottom, said bottom and container side wall defining an interior compartment;

a platform comprising a floor and a platform side wall extending upwardly from a periphery of said floor, said floor and platform side wall defining a receiver portion adapted to nestingly support the cargo container thereon;

at least one drainage aperture located on said platform; and

at least one drainage aperture located on said cargo container aligned with said drainage aperture of said platform for selective drainage from the cargo container interior compartment to the exterior of the cargo container~~and~~

~~an accessory support assembly for carrying the cargo carrier assembly and securing the cargo carrier assembly to an accessory receiver assembly secured to a vehicle, wherein the accessory support assembly comprises a mounting post and an accessory mounting bracket pivotally secured to said mounting post so that said bracket is selectively displaceable between a first position and a second position.~~

29. (new) The assembly of claim 28, further comprising an accessory support assembly for carrying the cargo carrier assembly and securing the cargo carrier assembly to an accessory receiver assembly secured to a vehicle.

30. (new) The assembly of claim 29, wherein the accessory support assembly comprises a mounting post and an accessory mounting bracket pivotally secured to said mounting post so that said bracket is selectively displaceable between a first position and a second position.

31. (new) The assembly of claim 14, further comprising an accessory support assembly for carrying the cargo carrier assembly and securing the cargo carrier assembly to an accessory receiver assembly secured to a vehicle.